



**DARK
HORSE
COMICS**

DRAGON AGE

1
OF
3



BIOWARE

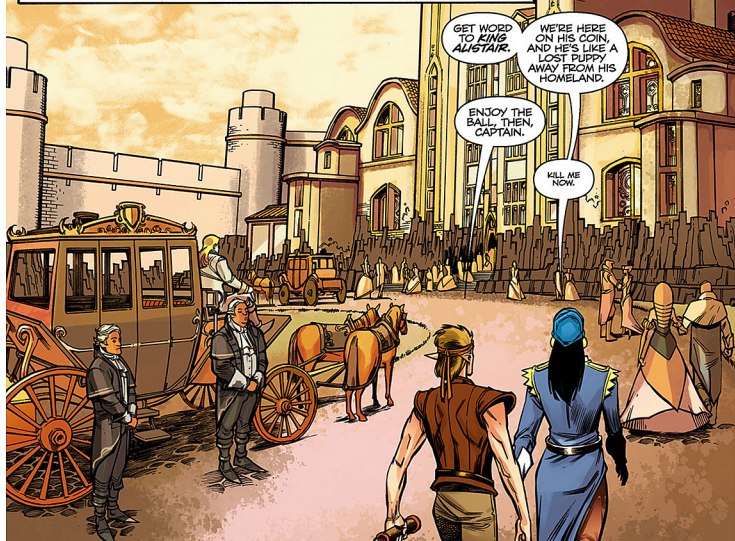
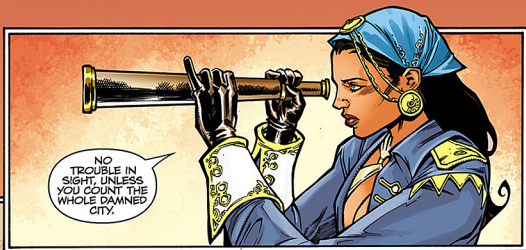
FROM THE LEAD WRITER OF THE DRAGON AGE GAMES

DRAGON AGE™



THOSE WHO SPEAK

DAVID GAIDER | ALEXANDER FREED | CHAD HARDIN



CHAPTER 1



WE CAME TO TEVINTER --
BETTER KNOWN AS
THE ARSE END OF ALL
NIGHTMARES -- TO
MURDER A MAN.

NOT MY USUAL CRIME, BUT
OUR ROYAL PASSENGER
NEEDED A FAVOR, SO I
VOLUNTEERED.



MY CREW WAS LESS
ENTHUSIASTIC -- THE
WORDS "MUTINY" AND
"QUEEN BITCH" WERE
USED -- BUT A BARREL
OF WINE AND A CHEST
FULL OF SILVER SWAYED
MOST OF THEM.



THE REST HELD OUT FOR A
PROMISE THAT WE'D STAY
TO THE COASTLINE -- AWAY
FROM GUNARI' WATERS.

I AGREED,
OF COURSE.

TEVINTER'S DEMON-LOVING
MAGE LORDS DON'T SEEM
HALF BAD NEXT TO THE GUN.





THINGS I INSTANTLY
HATE: THE MAGISTERS,
THE SLAVE TENDERS,
THE DRESS CODE, THE
OVER SEASONED MEAT.

(BECAUSE OF COURSE IF
YOU CAN'T *SMELL* HOW
EXPENSIVE THE SPICES
ARE, WHAT'S THE POINT?)

THINGS I WORRY ABOUT:
NO WEAPONS IN SIGHT,
BUT EVERYONE IS ARMED.

ANGRY MAGES WILL
MELT OUR EYES
WITH *WITCH FIRE* IF
THINGS GO SOUTH.

ANY
WORD FROM
TAL ARAMIS?

...EVER BEEN
TO VYRANTUM?

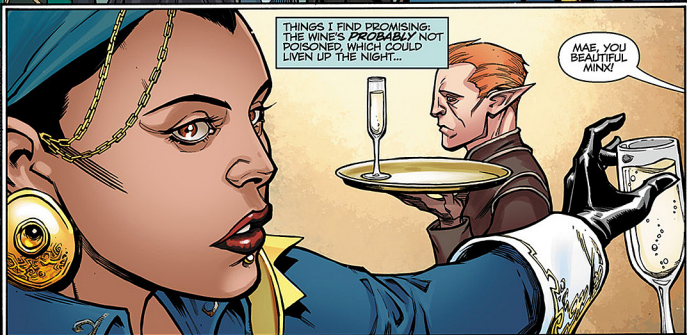
ONE HUNDRED
DEAD QUNARI, BUT
OF COURSE THEY
KEEP ATTACKING.

A CONVERT
TO THE GUN,
ON MY OWN
PROPERTY!

LET
ME INTRODUCE
YOU-- HE FOUND
MY HOUSE
SLAVES...

THINGS I FIND PROMISING:
THE WINE'S *PROBABLY* NOT
POISONED, WHICH COULD
LIVEN UP THE NIGHT...

MAE, YOU
BEAUTIFUL
MINK!



DRAGON AGE™

THOSE WHO SPEAK

Part 1 of 3

For nearly a decade, King Alistair of Ferelden has ruled with a steady hand, seeing to his homeland's reconstruction after the darkspawn blight. But when the words of a strange witch revealed that his father—King Maric—might still be alive, he set out to find Aurelian Titus, the mysterious mage responsible for Maric's disappearance.

But this story is not Alistair's alone.

The pirate Isabela has seen terrors across Thedas and plundered the ships and strongholds of the world's wealthiest merchants. Now the hired hand and confidante of King Alistair, she enjoys the luxury of a clean conscience—as well as steady pay for herself and her crew—on their journey to the North...



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BioWare Edmonton • Ray Muzyka and Greg Zeschuk, BioWare Co-Founders



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...OFFICIALLY
WE'RE **MARAUDING
PIRATES**-- THE KING
TOOK MY ADVICE NOT
TO BRING AN ARMY,
GIVEN THE
POLITICS.

YOU TAKE
GOOD CARE
OF HIM.

I'M
NOT SURE
HE'S YOUR
TYPE.

AHEM.

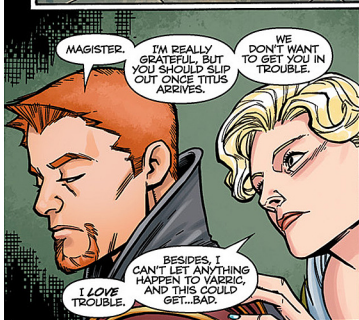
NEITHER AM
I, BUT HOW CAN
I BE CERTAIN
UNLESS WE --



...MAYBE AFTER
THIS, WE CAN
CATCH UP OVER
DRINKS?

YOU'RE
AWFULLY
QUIET.

I'M IMAGINING
YOU AS A LEGLESS
COCKROACH, ROLLING
IN YOUR FILTH AND
WAITING TO DIE.



MAGISTER.

I'M REALLY
GRATEFUL, BUT
YOU SHOULD SLIP
OUT ONCE TITUS
ARRIVES.

WE
DON'T WANT
TO GET YOU IN
TROUBLE.

I LOVE
TROUBLE.

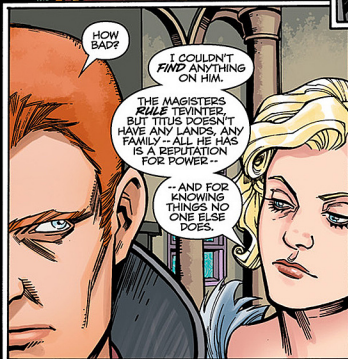
BESIDES, I
CAN'T LET ANYTHING
HAPPEN TO VARRIC,
AND THIS COULD
GET...BAD.



...YOU
OWE ME!

HOW WOULD
YOU LIKE IT IF
I TOLD YOUR
KING ABOUT THE
VENEFICATION
SEA?

NOTHING
HAPPENED
THERE,
DEVON.



HOW
BAD?

I COULDN'T
FIND ANYTHING
ON HIM.

THE MAGISTERS
RULE TEVINTER,
BUT TITUS DOESN'T
HAVE ANY LANDS. ANY
FAMILY-- ALL HE HAS
IS A REPUTATION
FOR POWER--

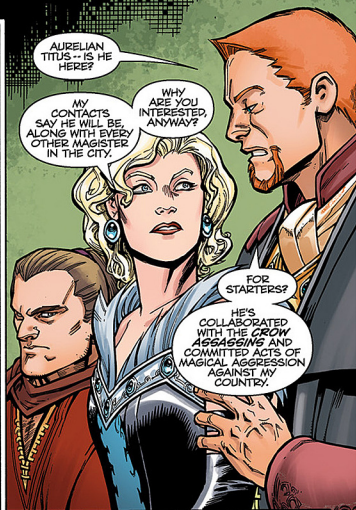
-- AND FOR
KNOWING
THINGS NO
ONE ELSE
DOES.

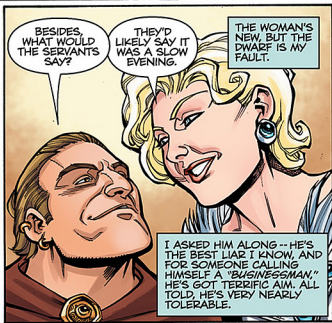


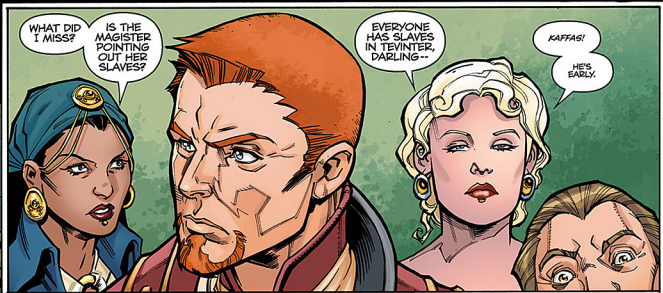
NOTHING
HAPPENED.
YOU
UNDERSTAND?

YES.

THEN
WALK
AWAY.







WHAT DID I MISS?

IS THE MAGISTER POINTING OUT HER SLAVES?

EVERYONE HAS SLAVES IN TEVINTER, DARLING--

KAFFAS!

HE'S EARLY.



MAGISTER TITUS.

IS THE QUNARI ARISHOK DEFEATED?

MAGISTER TITUS.

YOUR PRESENCE HONORS US.

MAGISTER TITUS.

BENEATH THE CITY OF KIRKWALL, BELOW WHERE THE RAT CATCHERS PISS ON STONES TO MARK THEIR **TERRITORY**, THERE ARE RUINS.

VARRIC AND I HAVE BEEN THERE AND WE DON'T TALK ABOUT IT, AND I CAN ONLY REMEMBER IT LIKE A SWEAT-STAINED BAD DREAM--

--THE KIND WHERE EVERY CHOICE YOU MAKE IS **WRONG**, AND YOU'RE WAITING FOR SOMETHING TO REACH FROM THE SHADOWS AND PLUCK OUT YOUR EYES.

BEING HERE NOW IS LIKE BEING UNDERNEATH KIRKWALL AGAIN.

I HATE TEVINTER.



SPREAD
OUT AND BE
READY.

YOU'RE
SURE--

NOW.



AURELIAN
TITUS?

YES?

DO YOU
KNOW WHO
I AM?

NO.



FUNNY.
THAT.

YOU
TRIED HARD
ENOUGH TO
GET YOUR
HANDS ON
ME.

YOU
WEREN'T AS
LUCKY AS YOU
WERE WITH MY
FATHER.



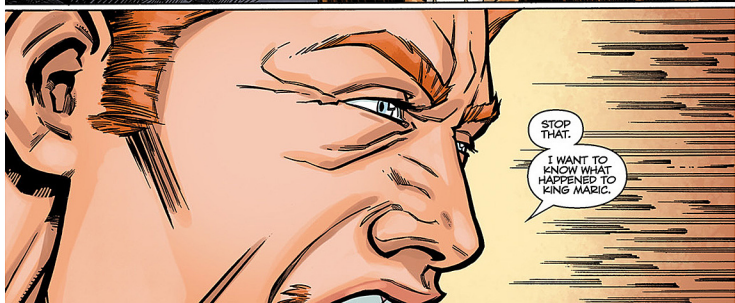
AH.

TAINTED
SCION OF
CALENHAD.

THE CIRCLE
OF BLOOD
COMPLETE.

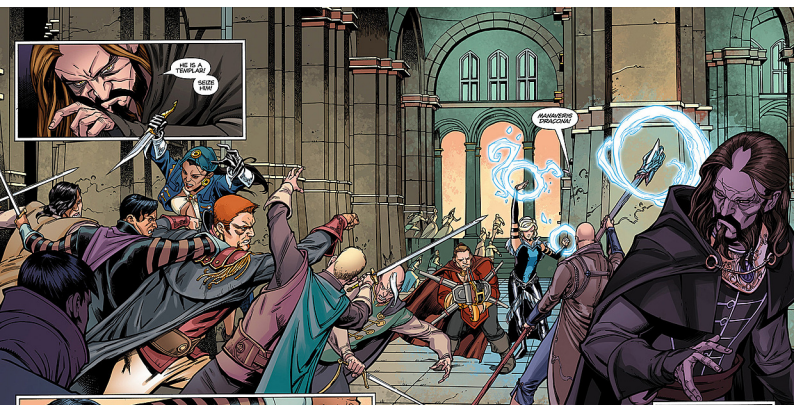
KING
ALISTAIR OF
FERELDEN.

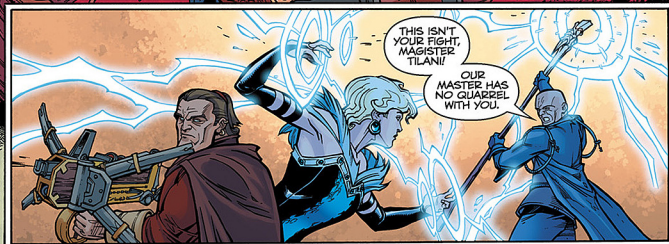
WELCOME TO
TEVINTER.



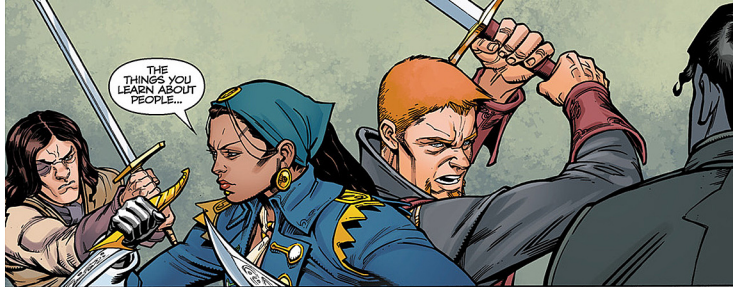
STOP
THAT.

I WANT TO
KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED TO
KING MARIC.

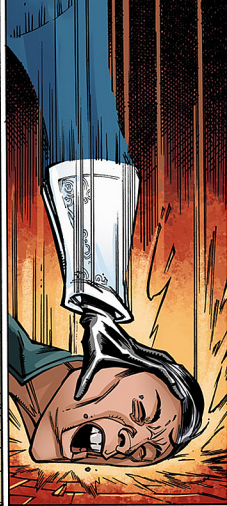












ISABELA.

THANK
YOU...I THOUGHT
HE WAS GOING
TO --



ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

DEVON!



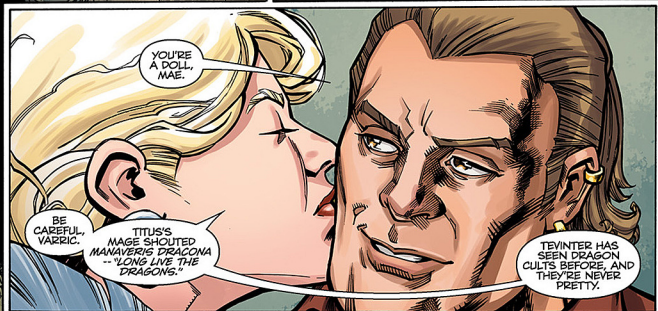
TITUS'S MAN GOT HIM.

BUT WE HAVE OUR CAPTIVE, AT LEAST--ASSUMING HE KNOWS ANYTHING.

DAMN IT.

YOU SHOULD LEAVE BEFORE THE GUARD ARRIVES.

THERE WILL BE QUESTIONS, AND IT'D BE BETTER IF A MAGISTER IS THE ONE ANSWERING THEM.



YOU'RE A DOLL, MAE.

BE CAREFUL, VARRIC.

TITUS'S MAGE SHOUTED MANAVERIS DRACONA -- "LONG LIVE THE DRAGONS."

TEVINTER HAS SEEN DRAGON CULTS BEFORE, AND THEY'RE NEVER PRETTY.



THANK YOU AGAIN--IF YOU EVER NEED ANYTHING, GET WORD TO ME THROUGH VARRIC.

ARE YOU OKAY?

FINE.

YOU'RE SURE?

YOU'RE COVERED IN BLOOD.



THERE ARE WORSE THINGS THAN BLOOD.

LET'S GET TO THE SHIP.

TITUS'S CULTIST BIT MY WRIST WHILE I WAS TYING HIM UP.

HE WOULDN'T SAY MUCH ABOUT HIS MASTER VARRIC TRICKED A LOCATION OUT OF HIM, BUT NOW HE'S SULKING IN THE HOLD AND REFUSING TO TALK.

AND TODAY WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO TITUS'S HOME ON THE ISLAND OF SEHERON.

...CHECK THE BILGE AND START STRAPPING DOWN CARGO -- I DON'T WANT PROBLEMS IF THAT STORM HITS.



STILL NOTHING, CAPTAIN.

AND?

AND THE CREW IS TERRIFIED.

AFTER EVERYTHING YOU TOLD THEM --



SEHERON IS **DISPUTED** TERRITORY BETWEEN TEVINTER AND THE QUNARI.

I'M NOT BREAKING ANY PROMISES.

DIDN'T SAY YOU WERE.

BUT SOME OF OUR BOYS WERE IN KIRKWALL WHEN THE QUNARI HIT THE CITY...

...AND THE REST LISTEN WHEN YOU CALL THE QUNARI "BASTARD HORN-HEADED FANATICS"...

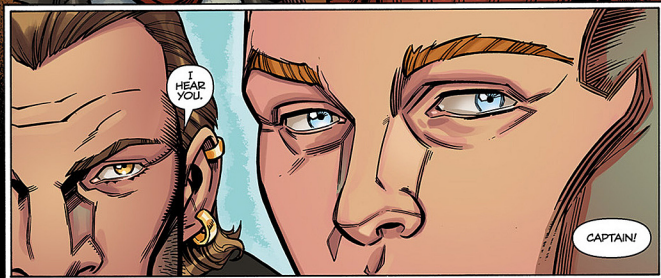
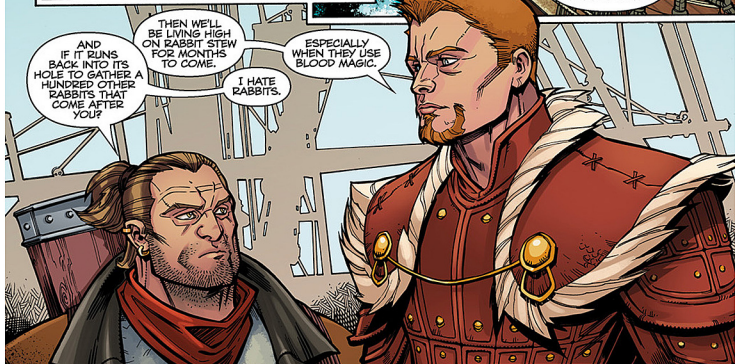


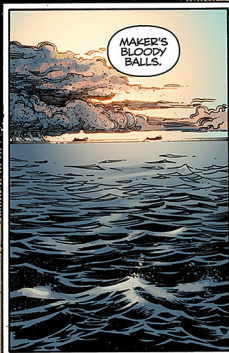
-- "WHO'D RAVAGE THEIR OWN MOTHERS FOR THE CHANCE TO KILL OR, BETTER YET, CONVERT YOU."

I WANT THE CREW SCARED.

KEEP THEM FOCUSED, AND KEEP THEM SOBER.

YES, CAPTAIN.





MAKER'S
BLOODY
BALLS.



WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

TWO GUNARI
DREADNOUGHTS,
COMING UP
FAST.

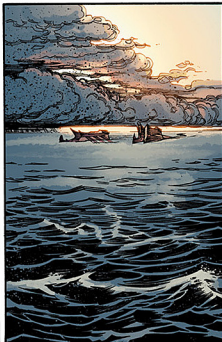
CAN
WE OUTRUN
THEM?



YOU'RE
KIDDING,
RIGHT?

WE'VE
GOT A BATTLE
COMING!

GRAB YOUR
WEAPONS AND
READY BUCKETS--
WE'RE APT TO
SEE FIRES!



GO
WITH VARRIC,
GRAB A SKIFF
AND TAKE TO
SEA.

IF
WE GO ON
THE OFFENSIVE,
YOU MIGHT SLIP
AWAY--

WE'RE NOT
ABANDONING
YOU.



I HAVE
FRIENDS
AMONG THE
GUNARI.

A FRIEND,
SORT OF.

MAYBE
I--

I'M NOT
LOSING
ANOTHER
SHIP TO THE
OX-MEN.

I'M
SORRY.

DON'T
APOLOGIZE--
JUST BE READY
TO FIGHT.

